

GALLATIN DISASTER RELIEF BULLETIN – APRIL 13, 2006 UPDATE

This information has been revised to provide updated information concerning the status of City services and disaster relief efforts. Updated Disaster Relief Bulletins will be published as new information becomes available.

CIVIL STATE OF EMERGENCY AND CURFEW INFORMATION

The Civil State of Emergency order issued by the Mayor and City Council remains in effect until further notice in order to provide for the protection of the people and property in the areas affected by the tornado. A curfew is in effect from dusk to dawn for the following Subdivisions within the City of Gallatin: Woodhaven, Woodvale, Plantation Trace, Academy Heights, and Lake Charland. Other areas in the City may be subject to the curfew restrictions if determined to be necessary by the Chief of Police. Anyone wishing to access these areas during the dusk to dawn curfew should be prepared to present valid photo identification at the checkpoint established for each area.

CITY OF GALLATIN DISASTER ASSISTANCE CENTER

The City of Gallatin has created a centralized information center to coordinate the City's disaster response services. If you have any storm related questions, please contact 452-5400 ext 311.

QUICK REFERENCE INFORMATION AND CONTACT NUMBERS

- ☒ **City of Gallatin Disaster Assistance Center: 451-5950, extension 311**
- ☒ **City Hall: 452-5400**
 - o **Codes Division:** ext. 345
- ☒ **Public Utilities:** 451-5922 (water, gas, sewer service questions)
- ☒ **Electric Department:**
 - o 452-5152
- ☒ **Public Works:** 452-2147
- ☒ **Police Department:** 452-1313 (Non-emergency)
- ☒ **FEMA Relief: To be announced, contact City Hall for updated information.**
- ☒ **Gallatin Chamber of Commerce Volunteer and Disaster Relief Services:** 452-4000
- ☒ **Pet/Animal Care Information:** Tommy Cox – Animal Control, 451-5949

DISASTER RELIEF AND VOLUNTEER SERVICES

The Gallatin Chamber of Commerce is the agency responsible for coordinating disaster relief and volunteer services.

- ☒ **Gallatin Chamber of Commerce Disaster Relief and Volunteer Services Hotline: 452-4000:** Contact this number if you have questions concerning what types of services that are available, to request volunteer assistance, or to register to serve as a volunteer in the recovery effort. The Chamber of Commerce office is located at 118 W. Main Street, next to Gallatin City Hall. The office will be open Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 8:30am to 3:00 pm.
- ☒ **Gallatin Chamber of Commerce Disaster Relief Stations will be setup in locations near the following intersections:**
 1. Albright Ln/Lakewood Rd
 2. Langwood Dr/Mack Alice
 3. Lock 4 Rd/Lakeshore Dr
 4. Rodman Blvd/Browns Ln
- ☒ **Gallatin Chamber of Commerce - Volunteer Information:** Individual volunteers and groups wishing to assist with the recovery efforts need to coordinate their relief efforts with the Gallatin Chamber of Commerce by calling 452-4000.
- ☒ **Volunteer Wristbands:** For the safety and protection of homeowners and everyone involved in the disaster relief efforts, volunteers are required to register with the Chamber of Commerce. Volunteers are required to wear a colored wristband while working in the affected neighborhoods. Homeowners and their family members are not required to wear a wristband. It is recommended that homeowners look for the wristbands and request volunteers not wearing wristbands to check-in with the nearest Disaster Relief Station or the Chamber of Commerce office before providing assistance. Volunteers assisting with recovery efforts should also be prepared to provide photo identification at checkpoint locations. Access into affected areas may be limited depending on the type of recovery work being performed by repair crews and other damage assessment personnel.
- ☒ **Red Cross Services Center located in the Old Big Lots store at 670 Nashville Pike.** The center will be open 7 days a week from 9:00am to 5:00pm. Case workers will be available to provide assistance. Various types of relief

services will be provided at this location. In addition, Red Cross Stations will be located at the Gallatin Chamber of Commerce Disaster Relief Stations.

- ☒ **Church of Christ Disaster Relief Services** is providing various types of disaster relief services. Contact 452-9503 for additional information.
- ☒ **Sumner Disaster Relief Fund.** A Disaster Relief fund has been established for people wishing to donate money for disaster relief efforts in Sumner County. Donations may be dropped off at any First Independent Bank or may be mailed to the following address:
Sumner Disaster Relief Fund
c/o Gallatin Chamber of Commerce
PO BOX 26
Gallatin, TN 37066
- ☒ **Damaged Vehicles:** Vehicles originally towed to the Sumner County Fairground parking lot have been moved to Safeway Towing located at 460 S. Water Avenue in Gallatin. Contact 451-7600 for additional information
- ☒ **Contractor Lists:** The City is in the process of developing a list of licensed contractors that have previously worked in Gallatin. Contact 451-5950, ext. 311 for additional information.

GARBAGE AND DEBRIS REMOVAL

- ☒ Please contact your homeowner's insurance company to arrange for the disposal of major home debris and other large items. Typically, most homeowner's insurance policies will arrange for and cover the expenses to remove storm damage debris.
- ☒ The Public Works Department will continue to provide regularly scheduled garbage pickup services throughout the City and will also continue to provide pickup services for tree and brush debris.
- ☒ Please separate brush, tree, and metal/junk items into separate piles and place them by the curb for removal. These items will be picked up as soon as possible by the Public Works Department. Contact the Public Works Department at 452-2147 if you have questions about what types of storm damage debris can be picked up.

Brush and Tree Debris Disposal

- ☒ Brush and tree debris **ONLY**, may be disposed of at a collection center located at the end of Lock 4 Road.

Other Storm Debris Disposal

- ☒ Other storm debris items may be taken to the Storm Debris Landfill located at the old County Rock Quarry located on

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Odoms Bend Road. Signs will be posted directing traffic to the site. *Directions from S. Water Avenue (SR-109):* Odoms Bend Road is located off S. Water Avenue just before the Cumberland River Bridge. Follow the signs approximately 1½ miles to the landfill. *Directions from Steam Plant Road:* Odoms Bend Road is located near the entrance road to the TVA Steam Plant and the intersection of Newton Lane. Follow the signs approximately ¾ mile to the landfill.

UTILITY INFORMATION

- ☑ Contact the Public Utilities Department at 451-5922, or stop by the business office located at 239 Hancock Street to inactivate your water and gas account for any residences that can no longer be lived in due to major damage caused by the tornado. Inactivating your account will help avoid being charged a minimum utility bill. There is no fee to reestablish water and gas service accounts once a residence has been repaired or rebuilt and approved for a certificate of occupancy.

BUILDING CODE INSPECTIONS

- ☑ Codes Officials are surveying affected areas to determine the safety of structures damaged in the storms. Building inspections will be posted on effective buildings with colored signs (placards). Buildings will also be marked with the following symbols:

LE = Limited Entry (yellow)

Any property owner whose house is marked for limited entry must read the note left on the structure specifying which part of the house is safe to enter. Unless otherwise noted, access is limited to property owners only.)

EP = Entry Prohibited (red)

DE = Demolish (black)

Structures marked EP or DE means that the structure has been declared unsafe and homeowners are not allowed to go into the structure.

- ☑ In order to protect the safety of property owners, volunteers, and other disaster relief officials, the City of Gallatin urges residents to comply with the Codes Division's determination about the safety and access into affected buildings and structures.

Building and Demolition Permits

- ☑ A building permit and/or demolition permit must be obtained prior to beginning most major repair projects. Building permit fees have been waived

for permits issued to repair storm damage. Building repairs and related construction activities must meet Building Codes standards adopted by the City.

- ☑ Building permit applications may be submitted by either the property owner or their authorized contractor. Please note that property owners must sign the building permit application in order for the permit to be issued. Please contact the Codes Division at 452-5400, ext. 345 if you have questions about damage assessment inspections or to inquire about what types of repair work require a building permit. In most cases, storm damage related building permits will be fast-tracked and can be issued at the time of application. Every consideration will be given to these critical applications.

WAYS TO AVOID REPAIR SCAMS AND IDENTITY THEFT

- ☑ The Gallatin Police Department would like to offer the following advice related to home repair scams and identity theft.

Repair Scams

- Try to avoid using people offering services door to door. Most reputable contractors and home repair specialist don't need to solicit work door to door.
- Use a contractor or home repair business that you have done business with in the past.
- Get recommendations for contractors and home repair businesses from friends and family.
- Take the time to check references. Have a friend or relative make these calls for you.
- Never pay up front the full amount quoted for the work. Agree on a percentage up front then the balance when the work is completed.
- Get in writing what work is to be completed on your residence and the amount to be charged for the work.
 - Try to use contractors and businesses that are licensed through the state of Tennessee and who have insurance on their workers. Again, have a friend or relative check this information
 - Don't be pressured into making an agreement, take the time to check out the contractor or business.

Identity Theft

- Contact your bank and let them know your property was damaged in the tornado. Cancelled checks and important papers may have been carried by the wind several counties away.

- Contact the major credit reporting agencies and have them place an alert on your accounts for unusual activity.
- Check your credit report periodically for the next few months.
 - Trans Union–1-800-888-4213
 - Experian – 1-888-397-3742
 - Equifax – 1-800-686-1111
- Contact the Gallatin PD at 452-1313 if you have questions or to obtain additional information
- ☑ **IRS Income Tax Meeting**
April 20, 2006
9:00 am to 2:00 pm
 - Gallatin City Hall, 132 W. Main Street, 2nd Floor Council Chambers. IRS agents will be available to answer questions and help citizens reconstruct lost or destroyed income tax records
 - Property owners with immediate questions should call the IRS at 1-866-562-5227 or 1-800-829-1040. Information is not yet available whether the IRS will extend Monday's income tax filing deadline for taxpayers in tornado affected areas.
 - Taxpayers should save receipts related to the cost of repairing tornado damage, including documentation concerning insurance reimbursements.

Collection Centers Established for Lost and Found Items Recovered From Tornado Debris

- **Red Cross Service Center** – Old Big Lots Building 670 Nashville Pike.
Hours: 9-5, 7 days a week.
- **Municipal Park:** Recovered items are being collected at the storage building by the outdoor swimming pool in Municipal Park. Persons wishing to drop off or view items should call the Gallatin Civic Center at 451-5911 during normal Civic Center business hours. Valuable items such as jewelry should be taken directly to the Gallatin Police Department.

INFO FOR PROPERTY OWNERS AND RESIDENTS LOCATED OUTSIDE THE GALLATIN CITY LIMITS

County residents can utilize the information in this Disaster Relief Bulletin. The list of contact numbers provided below can be substituted for County service providers.

- ☑ **Sumner County Government**
 - **County Executive:** 452-3064
 - **Codes Department:** 452-1467
 - **Highway Dept.:** 452-2632
 - **Sheriff's Dept.** 452-2616
- ☑ **Cumberland Electric:** 452-3703
- ☑ **Nashville Electric Service:** 736-6900